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FROM: MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR, P.C.

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T-508 P.003/018 F-998

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In re Patent Application of

T. SAKURAI et al

Serial No. 09/179,188

Group Art Unit: 1651

Filed: October 27, 1998

Examiner: D. Naff

For: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR THE RECOVERY OF NUCLEIC ACIDS

REPLY

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 8, 2004

Sir:

In response to the Final Rejection mailed April 8, 2003,
please amend the above-identified application as follows.